



Megan Gallagher

Senior Research Associate, Urban Institute

Megan Gallagher is a senior research associate at the Urban Institute. Her research focuses on efforts to improve housing and educational opportunities for children in low-income families. She recently completed a study of innovative collaborations between assisted housing providers and education agencies in Akron, New Haven, and Vancouver. She is staging a pilot demonstration to improve low-income DC parents' information about public school choices in Washington, DC, where school choice is bountiful. The first stage, in-depth interviews with parents about the process of school choice, is under way.

Gallagher also provides research and technical support for comprehensive, place-based interventions that seek to improve educational outcomes. In DC's Kenilworth-Parkside neighborhood, she provides research support to a federal Promise Neighborhoods grantee that is building a school-centered, neighborhood-based cradle-to-career continuum for children and families. Her work involves a neighborhood household survey, a school-based student survey, an implementation study, and general technical assistance. She is also providing research and analytic support to Prince George's County TNI@Schools initiative, a collaborative effort between the school district and the county that provides wraparound services for students in school.

Before joining Urban in 2005, Gallagher studied the impacts of welfare programs on adult, child, and family well-being at Child Trends. While at Child Trends, she cowrote several publications on child well-being and employment among low-income mothers. She holds a bachelor of arts in sociology and social welfare from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a master's of public policy from Georgetown University.